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been constructed for the sum which the United States expended upon war-preparations in 40 years?

Mr. Whitney, who petitioned Congress for permission to build a railroad from Lake Michigan to the Pacific Ocean, affirmed that the magnificent work would not cost over 50,000,000 dollars. How many of such railroads might our Government have built, had it devoted to their construction what it has appropriated to the prospective destruction of human beings?

E. B.

JUVENILE PEACE SOCIETIES.

We have been thinking for a long time upon some plan of setting the young folks on both sides of the Atlantic a talking and writing to each other. What say our young friends of the "School-room" to this proposition? Come, now, let us talk this matter over together. We are confident there are now at the beginning of this new year, 100,000 boys and girls who see and read the "Bond of Brotherhood," in England and America. And all these are so much alike in looks, language, dress, and education, as if they were all born in one country. If "Our School-room" were one of brick or stone, and all these children were actually assembled in it, so that a visitor might see their faces, he could not tell which were American and which were English, by the rose or the lily in their cheeks, or by the colour of their eyes, or hair, or the tones of their voices. We doubt whether he could tell one from the other by their answers in geography, arithmetic, history, &c. Now, then, what should prevent their cultivating a kind of social feeling and correspondence with each other? We have laid before them, at the opening of the "School-room" for this month, a pleasant description of the forming of a Juvenile Peace Society in Edinburgh, as an illustration of the plan we are going to propose. Suppose that a Juvenile Peace Society should be formed at Boston, in New England, just like the one in Edinburgh, and a friendly correspondence should be established between the two, thro' their secretaries, reporting to each other their progress and plans and principles of operation monthly; wouldn't that be capital? Oh, it would! We are sure the Boston boys would be delighted with such a correspondence. Boston is a wonderful place for schools, and the boys and girls there are pretty clever with the pen; and they have heard, too, a good deal about the scholarship of the young folks in Edinburgh, and it would be a capital thing to bring them together in this way. Then a Juvenile Peace Society might be formed in Old York, to correspond with one in New York, and so on, until a hundred Juvenile Societies on both sides of the ocean, should be paired off in this way, and be brought into the most interesting communication with each other. There are more than a hundred towns in America bearing the same names as towns in England. It would be easy to form such Juvenile Peace Societies in all these towns, and to

put them into communication with each other. We pledge ourselves, in our life is spared, to find a corresponding society in the United States for every Juvenile Peace Society that may be established in England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland.

MILITARY PROTECTION.

A very industrious, simple hearted peasant owned a little garden patch, which, with his persevering industry, yielded himself and family the means of subsistence. His cabbages and other vegetables were in the midst of their luxuriant growth, when a trivial occurrence broke the peaceful monotony of his mind, and filled it with restless solicitude. A roguish little rabbit had stolen into the enclosure, and finding the bean and pea leaves to his taste, nibbled his breakfast from them, day after day, without dreaming that they were cultivated for shorter eared folk than he and his dove eyed companions. So he bobbed about amid the delicious verdure of the unrestricted Eden, and daintily tasted of the choicest things that grew in it, cocking up his ears with delight when esconsen by some plant of peculiar relish. Rising earlier than either the sun or the peasant, his morning repasts were finished without interruption, and he had retired to ruminate in his hole in a neighboring wall, long before the poor man appeared, to detect the continued depredations of a guest that cooked and counted without his host. Annoyed at these surreptitious visits, which had destroyed nearly a shilling's worth of his vegetables, the peasant determined upon summary measures. With that self sacrificing spirit which is apt to distinguish the patriotism of the poor, he resolved to "repel this foreign invasion," and annihilate the cotton coated intruder, cost what it might. To make the means commensurate with the end, he applied to a neighboring 'squire for his whole force of hunters, horses and hounds, to expel the invader from his territory by "force of arms." The 'squire, willing to give the simple man a proof of his prowess, ordered the horn to be sounded early on the following morning; and the peasant was aroused from his bed by a squadron of horsemen thundering around his cottage, with the neighing of steeds and yelping of dogs chiming in with the tooting trumpets of the chase. At the summons of the 'squire, the simple rustic brought out all his provisions, his bread, beef, beer and hams, to breakfast the hungry host. And when all his stock had been consumed, the charge was sounded. The foaming and fretting steeds fell into a line; "the dogs of war" were loosed; the watchword was given; the whole squadron came sweeping down through the garden, and the next moment every green plant and shrub it contained was trodden into the earth. The rabbit from his hole in the wall, and the peasant from the door of his cot, looked out upon the scene of desolation with astonishment and chagrin. The 'squire and his train disappeared, leaving the impoverished swain to ruminate upon "the costs of war," and the value of "*military protection.*"

The experience of every people that have enjoyed a "military protection," may find an illustration in the experience of this poor peasant.

E. B.